

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCCHAR 02161 031309Z
ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PDIP, SHUM, RO
SUBJECT: MORE ON PARTY/GOVERNMENT CHANGES: AMBASSADORS AND
JUDETE PARTY FIRST SECRETARIES

1. GOR HAS RECENTLY RECALLED FIVE OF ITS AMBASSADORS, THREE
OF WHOM HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN PLACED IN IMPORTANT POSITIONS
AT HOME. IN ADDITION TO VIRGIL CAZACU, WHOSE RETURN FROM
BELGRADE AND ELEVATION WITHIN PARTY HIERARCHY WAS PREVIOUSLY
NOTED, THE FOLLOWING HAVE ALSO RETURNED TO ROMANIA:

--TRAIAN GIRBEA, WHO HAD BEEN AMBASSADOR TO MONGOLIA SINCE
1971.

--TEODOR HAS, WHO HAD BEEN AMBASSADOR TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA ALSO
SINCE 1971, AND HAS BEEN NAMED FIRST SECRETARY OF HUNEDOARA
JUDET.

--CONSTANTIN NITA, WHO HAD BEEN AMBASSADOR TO EAST GERMANY
FOR TWO YEARS.

--NICOLAE VERES, WHO HAD BEEN AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA SINCE
1974 AND HAS BEEN NAMED FIRST SECRETARY OF MURES JUDET,
VICE IOAN FLOREA.

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PAGE 02 BUCCHAR 02161 031309Z

2. FOLLOWING CHANGES ANNOUNCED PREVIOUSLY OF FIRST SEC-
RETARIES IN BOTOSANI, BUZAU, HUNEDOARA, IALOMITA, ILFOV,
SIBIU AND TELEORMAN, THOS ANNOUNCED MARCH 30 FOR MURES
AND BRAILA BRING TOTAL FOR MONTH TO NINE.

--BRAILA: ION CATRINESCU REPLACES DUMITRU BALAN.
CATRINESCU'S EXPERIENCE AT RCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAS BEEN

IN ORGANIZATIONAL OR CADRE AFFAIRS. FROM 1972-1975 HE WAS FIRST SECRETARY OF PRAHOVA JUDET (PLOIESTI), IN WHICH CAPACITY HE MADE A FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON AMBASSADOR BARNES. HE HAD BEEN A CHIEF OF SECTION IN CC SECRETARIAT SINCE HIS DEPARTURE FROM PRAHOVA, AND WAS ELECTED FULL MEMBER CC IN 1974.

--MURES: NICOLAE VERES HAS BEEN CC FULL MEMBER SINCE 1965, JUST PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT SAME YEAR AS FIRST SECRETARY OF FORMER MAGYAR AUTONOMOUS REGION. WHEN TERRITORIAL DIVISIONS OF COUNTRY WERE REDRAWN IN 1968, HE BECAME FIRST SECRETARY OF MURES JUDET, WHERE HE REMAINED UNTIL HIS AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENT IN 1974. VERES IS ETHNIC HUNGARIAN, WHOSE PERFORMANCE DURING PREVIOUS STINT IN THIS MAJOR JUDET WITH LARGE MAGYAR-SZEKLER MINORITY (44 PERCENT OF POPULATION) WAS APPARENTLY ACCEPTABLE TO THEM AS WELL AS TO RCP LEADERSHIP.

--HUNEDOARA: TEODOR HAS WAS ALSO ELECTED TO RCP CC IN 1965 (AS MEMBER OF CENTRAL AUDITING COMMISSION OF CC SINCE 1974, HE COULD NOT ALSO BE MEMBER OF CC), WAS A REGIONAL FIRST SECRETARY (CRISANA) UNTIL HIS DEPARTURE FROM HUNEDOARA TERRITORIAL REORGANIZATION AND THEN A JUDET FIRST SECRETARY (ARAD) UNTIL HIS AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENT IN 1971. HAS' DEPARTURE FROM ARAD FOLLOWED A CONSTRUCTION SCANDAL INVOLVING SUBORDINATE OFFICIALS. WE SUSPECT HAS IS OF MIXED ROMANIAN-SLAVIC ANCESTRY.

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PAGE 03 BUCCHAR 02161 031309Z

3. COMMENT: IN HAS AND VERES, CEAUSESCU HAS TURNED TO TRIED-AND-TRUE PARTY MEN FOR HIS FIRST SECRETARIES IN TWO OF COUNTRY'S MOST SENSITIVE JUDETE. NEITHER OF THEIR PREDECESSORS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN HELD PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAST YEAR'S DISTURBANCES IN JIU VALLEY MINES OR FOR REPORTED MAGYAR STIRRINGS IN TIRGU MURES FOLLOWING DISCLOSURE OF KIRALY'S LETTERS, BUT CEAUSESCU HABITUALLY RESORTS TO QUIET REPLACEMENT EVEN OF PRESUMABLY BLAMELESS LOCAL PARTY CHIEFS FOLLOWING ANY SUCH EPISODES. WHILE VERES IS SAFE PARTY MAN, HIS APPOINTMENT IS ALSO GESTURE TO MAGYARS. IT IS HARDER TO DECIPHER FURTHER THE APPOINTMENT OF HAS, WHO STRIKES US AS LEAST DISTINGUISHED OF THREE NEW FIRST SECRETARIES, BUT HIS REPUTED MIXED ANCESTRY MAY ALSO BE A FACTOR IN A JUDET WITH SIGNIFICANT HUNGARIAN AND GERMAN MINORITIES, ESPECIALLY AMONG MINERS. END COMMENT.

4. WE HAVE TAKEN NOTE ALSO OF DISMISSAL AFTER ONLY ONE YEAR IN POSITION OF GHEORGHE TACHE, FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION, COINCIDENT WITH CEAUSESCU'S PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN SPEECH BEFORE JOINT SESSION OF MINORITIES

COUNCILS OF GENERAL DEFICIENCIES IN EDUCATION. TACHE,
WHO HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, HAD HAD NO
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN FIELD AND SEEMS TO HAVE TURNED OUT
TO BE ONE PARTY FAITHFUL WHO PROVED INADEQUATE OUT OF HIS
ELEMENT AND WHO, ADDITIONALLY, BECOMES APPARENT SCAPEGOAT
FOR REPORTED DISARRAY IN HIGHER EDUCATION AS RESULT OF
EDUCATIONAL REFORMS.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS EMBASSIES BERLIN,
PRAGUE OR TRIPOLI ARE ABLE TO MAKE CONCERNING FORMER
AMBASSADORS.
AGGREY

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